financial assistance in the form of loan and grant is extended to Non-Governmental Organisations Cooperatives. Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector Industry etc. These schemes arc project specific and not State Specific.

Details of financial assistance during the period 1992-93 to 1997-98 provided under the Schemes in respect of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North Eastern Region are given below:

	Rupees in Lakhs
Madhya Pradesh	111.95
Rajasthan	75.00
North Eastern Region	2040.00

Schemes for Processed Food Sector

953. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated some developmental plan schemes for promoting development of processed food sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; scheme-wise;

(c) whether these schemes are under implementation in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formu lated several developmental Plan Schemes for promoting processed food sector in the country. Under these schemes financial assistance in the form of loan and grant is extended to Non-Governmental Organisations Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertak ings, Private Sector Industries etc. for promotion of food processing industries.

(c) and (d) The schemes are project specific and not State specific. However, financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 9.69 crores was extended during the 8th Plan period in respect of proposals received from State of Maharashtra under the schemes pertaining to the Sectors of Fruit & Vegetables Processing, Meat & Poultry Processing and Fisheries.

During the first year of the 9th Plan viz. 1997-98 also financial assistance of approximately Rs. 2.99 crores has been extended in respect of proposals received from Maharashtra in the Fisheries. Hor-ticulture based Industries and Meat & Poultry Sector.

Food Processing Units in Maharashtra

954. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food processing units operating in the factory sector in Maharashtra at present, district-wise;

(b) what is their annual production in terms of quantity and value;

(c) what incentives are available to these units of the State; and

(d) how the farmers are being benefited from these units in the factory sector of the State?

THE MNISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The results of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) which covers factory sector conducted by the Central Statistical Organisation of the Department of Statistics are published at State and all India level and * not at district level. A statemnet indicating number of units and gross output for industry group 20-21—manufacturing of food products—for the period 1990-91 to 1994-95 is enclosed (See below)

(c) The Plan Scheme being operated by the Ministry for the development of food processing industries. Provide financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant-in-aid to Non Government Organisations. Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings and Industry including those in the factory sector.

(d) One of the Plan Schemes of the Ministry encourages the concept of backward linkages ensuring remunerative prices to farmers by creating direct linkages between farmers and the processors. The processing companies would be required to enter into a contract with a minimum of 25 farmers to be eligible to get incentive in the forms of grant limited to 5% of the total purchases made by processors in a given year subject to the maximum upto Rs. 10 lakhs per year.

Besides as farmers supply the raw materials required by food processors for converting them into value added products, the growth in processed food sector benefits them cither directly or indirectly.

Statement

Annual Survey of Industries

No. of Units and gross output in Industry groiup 20-21 (Manufacturing of food products) of Maharashtra

ASI Years	Number of Units	Gross Output (Rs. lakh)
1990-91	1517	622492
1991-92	1497	733011
1992-93	1666	863493
1993-94	1849	936494
1994-95	1778	1188338

Schemes Sponsored by IREDA

955. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has evolved a scheme of financing 85 percent of the project cost and 90 percent of equipment cost at low rate of interest for wind mill, solar energy, bio-gas etc;

(b) the details of the scheme;

(c) whether Government propose to publicize this scheme in regional lan guages; and

(d) whether the schemes is proposed to be implemented through the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has broadly, been financing schemes covering Project Financing, Equipment Financing and Financing relating to Manufacturing of EquipmcnfFacilitics. The percentage upto which IREDA finances varies from sector, to sector. The financing upto 80% to 90% of the project cost is done in the arcs of Wind Mill Pumping System, Solar Energy and Biogas at interest rates which range between 0% in case of Solar Cookers and 16% in case of Small Hydro, Biomass Cogcncration and Biomcthana-tion of industrial effluents.

(c) IREDA's Promotional brochures arc available in Hindi and in English. IREDA's Business Development Associates in respective state arc allowed to get the brochures printed in regional languages costs of which are reimbursed by IREDA. IREDA's advertisements are also published in regional languages through regional newspapers. In addition, Video films arc produced by IREDA in regional languages.

(d) No, Sir. Schemes of IREDA are being implemented predominantly through Private sector and other eligible borrowers such as Non-Gorernmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings, Co-operative Societies etc.

उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र

956.**श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्र के बारह जिलों में सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है;